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Ms. Carol Hanlon
S&ER Products Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
P.O. Box 30307 M/S 025
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0707
Fax: 1-800-967-0739

OCT 15 2001

Dear Ms. Hanlon,


I am writing to encourage the Department of Energy's recommendation to President George W. Bush that the Yucca Mountain site in Nevada be selected for the storage of high level radioactive materials. Much good study by the DoE has been done and the time to make a start needs to be soon.

I would emphasize the previous words "storage" and "materials". The Yucca Mountain site should not be considered a dump. The site should be considered as storage because many of the materials could possibly be recycled and reused in future (especially nuclear fuel assemblies from power plants along with possible mixed-oxide fuel technology from DoD materials).

America needs to understand the logic and responsibly associated with this issue. Nuclear power has and will provide important energy and environmental benefits for America. Storage and recycling are two of the last steps in a "total management" of this important resource. Studies have shown that scientific monitoring of the stored materials for condition (and possible reuse as technology progresses) is far more appealing to the public mind rather than calling the materials "waste" and burying them in a to be forgotten "dump". For any unusable materials that will remain, it can be said that the materials will have been reduced to their most "benign" form, stored in secure canisters and placed in the safest geological location.

Lastly, in light of security perceptions since the September 11 attacks on America, a single well-guarded storage site for nuclear materials would appear to be more desirable than continuing to have used nuclear materials located all over the country. As mentioned above, the possible future recycling and reuse of these materials for fuel usage may become more important to the nation in lieu of current geo-political world events.

Sincerely,



Alan E. Domes
3602 Van Buren Road
Kenosha, WI 53142